



Political Education Series

THE SOVIET UNION IS THE BULWARK OF PEACE, DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This pamphlet is a translation of Part 11 of the *Political Education Series*, published by the *Pravda* Publishing House, Moscow 1951.

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1. THE TWO CAMPS IN THE POSTWAR WORLD

The Weakening of Capitalism and Strengthening of Socialism

The victory of the Soviet socialist state and of the freedom-loving nations in the Second World War radically changed the entire international situation. Above all, it changed the relation of forces between the two social systems—Socialism and capitalism—in favour of Socialism.

The imperialists of all countries, particularly of the United States, Great Britain and France, wanted with the help of Hitler Germany and imperialist Japan to destroy, or at least to weaken, the great Land of Socialism, the Soviet Union, and also to crush the international working class and democratic movement. They counted on strengthening in this way the general position of capitalism, but the hopes of the imperialists proved to be groundless.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics emerged from the war stronger than it had been before. The prestige of the great Land of Socialism and its role in the international arena were immensely enhanced.

The Soviet Union played the chief part in routing Hitler Germany and imperialist Japan. The military defeat of these centres of world reaction and fascism struck a heavy blow at the entire capitalist system and weakened its forces.

After the Second World War the sphere of imperialist domination shrank considerably in the West and in the East; a number of new countries took the road to Socialism. As a result of the First World War, the first breach in the united imperialist front was made: Russia dropped out of the world capitalist system. As a result of the Second World War, this breach was considerably widened.

The Soviet Union liberated the peoples of Central and Southeastern Europe from the yoke of German fascism. Backed by the U.S.S.R., these peoples abolished the rule of the landlords and capitalists in their respective countries, established People's Democracies and set to work to build socialist society.

The defeat of fascist Germany and of imperialist Japan in the Second World War, the decisive part played by the Soviet Union in this, the growth of our country's might, the institution and consolidation of the People's Democracies, and the growth of the democratic forces all over the world were all extremely important factors in the historic victory that was achieved by the Chinese people. The rule of colonial oppression and feudal reaction in China was overthrown and a People's Republic was established.

As a result of military defeat, Germany, Japan and Italy ceased to be "great" powers. France also ceased to be a "great" power. Only two "great" powers remained—the United States and Great Britain, and even Great Britain's power was considerably reduced.

After the Second World War the working class and democratic movements in all the capitalist countries grew and gained strength. In the colonial and dependent countries, the people launched an extensive struggle against imperialist oppression and for freedom and independence.

Comrade Stalin stated in the order he issued as Minister of the Armed Forces of the U.S.S.R. on May 1, 1946: "The rout and liquidation of the chief centres of fascism and world aggression has led to profound changes

in the political life of the peoples of the world, to the extensive growth of the democratic movement among the peoples. Taught by the experience of the war, the masses of the people have realized that the fate of countries cannot be entrusted to reactionary rulers who pursue narrow-caste and selfish aims to the detriment of the people. This is precisely why the peoples, no longer wishing to live in the old way, are taking the fate of their countries into their own hands, are establishing a democratic order and are waging an active struggle against the forces of reaction, against the instigators of a new war."

Thus, as a result of the Second World War, the forces of capitalism were weakened and those of Socialism grew and gained strength.

The Formation of Two Camps—the Imperialist Camp and the Democratic Camp

While the Second World War was in progress, the countries at war with Germany and Japan acted together. But already at that time they had different conceptions of the object of the war and of the postwar world.

The Soviet people and the other freedom-loving peoples fought for the utter defeat of Hitler Germany and imperialist Japan, for the liquidation of fascism, for the establishment and consolidation of democracy in the countries which had fallen victims to bloodthirsty fascism, for the prevention of new wars, for lasting, peaceful collaboration of the peoples.

The imperialists of the United States and Great Britain pursued different aims. They wanted merely to weaken Germany and Japan in order to eliminate their competition from the world market and to establish their own domination over the world. Furthermore, the ruling circles of the United States and Great Britain expected that as a result of the exhausting war, the Soviet Union would

be bled white and enfeebled, would cease to be a great power, and would become dependent upon the United States and Great Britain.

The difference between the two conceptions of the object of the war and of the postwar world became exceptionally glaring when the war came to an end. The U.S.S.R. and the other democratic countries launched a determined struggle to liquidate the remnants of fascism and to strengthen the democratic order and peaceful collaboration among the peoples. The ruling circles of the United States and Great Britain, however, began to protect the remnants of fascism, to strangle the forces of democracy, to disrupt peaceful collaboration among the peoples and to prepare for a new war with the object of establishing their own domination over the world.

Thus, two lines on questions of postwar policy became revealed, and this led to the formation of two camps—the imperialist camp and the democratic camp.

The chief, leading force in the imperialist camp is the United States—the strongest of the imperialist powers, the main bulwark of world capitalism and the principal centre of preparation of a new war. By means of war the United States imperialists hope to solve their internal and external contradictions, win world domination and enslave all the peoples of the world. Rallying around itself the reactionary forces of all countries, the United States is fighting to perpetuate the capitalist system, to destroy Socialism and democracy, and to change the relation of forces in the international arena in its own favour.

Great Britain is in alliance with the United States. The Second World War exposed Great Britain's military and political weakness, as a result of which she became militarily and economically dependent upon the United States. After the war, Great Britain became still more economically dependent upon the United States. The British bourgeoisie is striving with the aid of American imperialism to preserve its colonial domination and to

strengthen its international positions. In conjunction with the American imperialists, it is striving to crush democracy and to unleash another imperialist war.

France and Italy are in the imperialist camp. The bourgeoisie in these countries was weakened by the Second World War, whereas the revolutionary movement in these countries is growing and expanding. To strangle this movement, the French and Italian bourgeoisie resort to the aid of American imperialism and are serving as its henchmen.

The imperialist camp is supported by Belgium and Holland, who possess extensive colonies and are striving to retain them at all cost. Fascist Spain and reactionary Turkey are in the imperialist camp; and Tito's clique of spies, who by deceptive means captured power in Yugoslavia, has gone into this camp. The countries in the Near East and in South America that are dependent upon the United States and Great Britain also belong to it.

Opposed to the imperialist camp stands the democratic camp.

The chief force in the democratic camp is the great socialist power, the Soviet Union. The U.S.S.R. is the most determined and consistent champion of peace, uncompromising enemy of imperialism and imperialist war, and staunch defender of the freedom and independence of all countries, big and small. It is the banner-bearer of firm and lasting peace and of the freedom and independence of the peoples. It rallies around itself all the forces that are fighting for peace, democracy and Socialism.

In addition to the U.S.S.R., the democratic camp contains the People's Democracies of Central and South-eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Hungary and Albania; and the People's Democracies of Asia: the Chinese People's Republic, the Korean People's Democratic Republic, and the Mongolian People's Republic. Jointly with the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies act in the international arena as staunch

fighters for peace and democracy, and for the freedom and independence of nations.

The democratic camp contains the German Democratic Republic.

Associated with the democratic camp is the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and also the people in other Asiatic countries who are fighting against imperialism.

The democratic camp is supported by the working class and democratic movements in the capitalist countries.

The aim of the democratic camp is to fight against imperialism, against the danger of new wars, and for the strengthening of democracy, for the freedom and independence of nations.

The forces of the democratic camp are immensely greater than the forces of the imperialist camp.

2. THE UNITED STATES IMPERIALISTS ARE THE WORST ENEMIES OF PEACE AND OF FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE OF NATIONS

American Imperialism Is Fighting for World Domination

The United States imperialists tried to utilize the Second World War for the purpose of further usurpation and plunder. During the war they captured new markets and made huge fortunes out of the sale of arms and war material. Thanks to war contracts, the profits of the American capitalists increased threefold; in the five years immediately preceding the war their profits amounted to 17,500 million dollars but during the six years of the war they amounted to 53,000 million dollars. Thus, a clique of American monopolists made billions out of the blood and suffering of millions of people.

After the war, war contracts diminished, production began to shrink and the menace of an economic crisis hovered over the United States. To maintain and even increase their profits and to stave off the crisis, the United States imperialists began artificially to expand the production of armaments and vigorously to seize new markets. The war had left the industry and agriculture of Europe and Southeast Asia in a state of utter ruin. The American imperialists took advantage of all this to seize new foreign markets and to subject other peoples, includ-

ing those of the capitalist countries in Europe, to their domination.

One of the major implements the United States imperialists employed for the purpose of enslaving the peoples of Western Europe was the Marshall plan. This was the plan proposed in 1947 by General Marshall, then United States Secretary of State, for the economic and political enslavement of the peoples. In conformity with this plan, the American imperialists grant loans to other countries on the most usurious terms and thereby get them entirely into their clutches.

By means of the Marshall plan the American imperialists have imposed their control over the economy of Western Europe. The governments of the West-European countries are obliged to utilize the loans they receive from the United States only in the way dictated by the American billionaires, that is, mainly for armaments. The countries which accept the Marshall plan are developing primarily those branches of industry which serve the war aims of the United States.

The American monopolies are flooding the West-European countries with overstocked goods that cannot be sold in the United States and compel these countries to increase the output of those raw materials which the United States needs. The American imperialists have compelled the countries which have accepted the Marshall plan to break off normal economic relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. All this has still further undermined the economy of the West-European countries: some branches of industry have shrunk considerably, the currency in the European countries has still further depreciated, the masses are sinking deeper into poverty.

The economic enslavement of the West-European countries is accompanied by their loss of political independence. On all the major questions of international and domestic policy, the ruling circles of the West-European

countries act in conformity with orders received from the American imperialists. The composition of the governments of the bourgeois West-European states and the policy they pursue are dictated by the United States.

United States intervention in the internal affairs of the European countries assumed even more open forms. The British and American imperialists organized open intervention in Greece. They sent troops, arms and money to that country and with the aid of the reactionary forces there restored the fierce fascist regime. The United States now dictates all the actions of the Greek government; the Greek ministers cannot adopt a single decision without the sanction of the United States ambassador. The latter is the virtual dictator of Greece.

The American imperialist bosses make no secret of the fact that their aim is to establish "American world domination," that the United States has set out to create a world-wide American empire. Thus, the United States imperialists want to carry out the same insane plans that the German fascists had tried to carry out.

For the purpose of establishing their world domination, the American imperialists are openly preparing for a new world war. In the 1951-1952 budget year, the United States will spend sixty times more for war purposes than it spent in 1938-1939 and twice as much as it spent in 1941-1942, i.e., at the height of the Second World War. In Great Britain and France, direct expenditure for war purposes in 1951 will be twice as high as in 1949. The total armed forces of the United States, Great Britain and France exceed 5,000,000 men, which is several times more than the armed forces of these countries before the Second World War.

The American imperialists have created numerous air and naval bases thousands of kilometres away from the shores of America. The United States has turned the whole of its economy to war purposes. It is expanding war production to the utmost and is piling up huge stocks

of armaments, particularly of atom bombs and other weapons for the mass extermination of the civilian population.

In an interview granted a *Pravda* correspondent, published on February 17, 1951, Comrade Stalin pointed out that in the United States, Great Britain and France there are aggressive forces that are thirsting for war. "They need war in order to rake in superprofits and to plunder other countries. These are the billionaires and millionaires, who regard war as a paying proposition yielding gigantic profits.

"These aggressive forces hold the reactionary governments in their grip and direct them. But at the same time they fear their peoples, who do not want another war and stand for the maintenance of peace. They are therefore trying to use the reactionary governments to enmesh their peoples in a web of lies, to deceive them and represent another war as a defensive war, and the peaceful policy of the peace-loving countries as an aggressive policy. They are trying to deceive their peoples in order to foist their aggressive plans upon them and inveigle them into another war."

Like the Hitlerites in their time, the British and American imperialists camouflage their policy of unleashing a new war with the plea that they are fighting Communism. They are waging a campaign of scurrilous slander against the Soviet Union in the endeavour to undermine the high prestige the latter enjoys among the working people all over the world. They are openly calling for war against the Soviet Union.

Over the radio, in the newspapers, in books and magazines, whole gangs of imperialist hirelings try to scare the people with the fictitious danger of war, which they falsely allege is threatening from the side of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies; they have let loose a flood of lies and slander against the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic, the European People's De-

mocracies and the working class and democratic movements. The American imperialists are conducting what they call a cold war, stirring up war hysteria and artificially creating a tense war situation, of which the armaments manufacturers and warmongers are taking advantage.

The British and American warmongers have dragged the Hitlerite "race theory" into the light again. Churchill and the other warmongers assert that only the English-speaking nations are fit nations and should rule over all the other nations of the world. But the other nations, which constitute the overwhelming majority of the world's population, have no desire to become the slaves of the British and American imperialists.

The American imperialists are forming all sorts of alliances for the purpose of conducting the war they are preparing for. In violation of all their obligations, they are disrupting peaceful collaboration with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies and are striving to organize a united front of capitalist countries against them.

In 1949, the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy, Canada, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, Denmark, Norway, Portugal and Iceland signed the North-Atlantic pact, which is directed against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, and against the national-liberation movement and democratic forces all over the world.

The North-Atlantic pact is an instrument for the open and direct preparation of a new imperialist war and for the enslavement of the West-European countries by American imperialism. In conformity with this pact, the bourgeois governments of the West-European countries have provided the American imperialists with war bases in their territories, have subordinated their armed forces to American command, and have placed their industry under the control of the American capitalists.

In preparing to carry out their aggressive plans the American imperialists place great hopes in Western Germany. At the conferences of the three powers—U.S.S.R., U.S.A. and Great Britain—held in Yalta and Potsdam in 1945, it was agreed that if universal peace and security is to be established it is absolutely necessary to demilitarize Germany, to prevent her from having armed forces and an armament industry. It was also decided to democratize Germany, i.e., to reorganize her life on new, democratic principles. The object of the decisions that were adopted in Yalta and Potsdam was to create a united, democratic, peaceful Germany.

But in spite of these decisions, the governments of the United States, Great Britain and France, whose troops occupied the Western zones of Germany, are preventing the democratization of Germany. The American, British and French authorities persecute the democratic organizations, arrest their leaders, and ban their meetings. On the other hand, they do everything to protect the Hitlerites; they are releasing the war criminals, big German capitalists and fascists and taking them into their service.

The British and American imperialists are pursuing a policy of splitting Germany. They refuse to set up democratic institutions for the whole of Germany, sabotage the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany and are trying to perpetuate their cruel occupational regime. They have set up a separate West-German state. The government of this so-called state consists of hirelings of British and American imperialism who are betraying the interests of the German people and are helping the United States to enslave Germany.

The United States, British and French governments are restoring the armaments industry in Western Germany and are reviving the German army. With the object of carrying out their aggressive plans they have abandoned the policy of demilitarizing Germany for the policy of remilitarizing her.

The American imperialists are sabotaging another important decision that was adopted at the Potsdam Conference, namely, to democratize and demilitarize Japan. The American forces which have occupied Japan are by every means suppressing the democratic movement that has arisen in that country. They are releasing the war criminals and fascists from prison and placing them in power; but, in conjunction with the reactionary Japanese government, they are persecuting the democratic organizations, prohibit meetings and demonstrations, rob the workers of the right to strike, prohibit the leaders of the Communist Party from engaging in political activities, suppress communist newspapers, and so forth.

The United States imperialists are reviving the Japanese armed forces and armament industry. The United States government is sabotaging the conclusion of a general peace treaty with Japan and is preparing to conclude a separate treaty with her, which will enable the United States to continue to treat her as a vassal.

Utilizing Japan as a war base, the American imperialists launched open hostilities against the free and independent Korean people. For nearly forty years this country had been ruled by the Japanese imperialists. North Korea was liberated from the Japanese yoke by Soviet troops. South Korea was occupied by American forces.

After liberating the Korean people, the Soviet Army opened for them the road to a new, free life. In North Korea a People's Democracy was established. Big democratic reforms were introduced; an agrarian reform was carried out, as a result of which the peasants received over a million hectares of land; large-scale industry, the transport services and the banks were nationalized; an eight-hour day was introduced in the factories. In September 1948, the freely-elected Supreme National Assembly of Korea proclaimed Korea a People's Democratic Republic, adopted a Constitution and elected a government headed by Kim Ir Sen, the leader of the Workers' Party.

A different situation arose in South Korea. The Americans landed here not as liberators, but as new oppressors of the Korean people. The American authorities kept intact the entire apparatus of oppression that had been built up by the Japanese and laid their hands on the entire wealth of South Korea. They set up a government consisting of traitors to the Korean people. At the head of this government they placed their agent Li Seung Man and in conjunction with him introduced a reign of terror and violence in South Korea.

The American military authorities formed, trained and armed a large Li Seung Man army and prepared it for the invasion of North Korea with the object of converting the whole of Korea into a war base for an attack upon People's China and the Soviet Union. On June 25, 1950, on orders from Washington, this army attacked the Korean People's Democratic Republic. The American imperialists landed troops in Korea and commenced open military intervention against the Korean people. At the same time they seized the Chinese island of Taiwan (Formosa), brought the 7th United States Fleet into the Straits of Taiwan and began to make air raids on Chinese territory.

The American interventionists encountered the determined resistance of the Korean People's Army. The entire Korean people rose to wage a just war for their freedom and independence. In order to break the resistance of the people, the American aggressors are resorting to the most inhuman methods of warfare. American aircraft barbarously bomb undefended Korean towns, destroy dwellings and hospitals and kill civilians—women, children and the aged. The American aggressors and the Li Seung Man authorities round up and kill Korean patriots by the thousand after subjecting them to the most inhuman torture.

But neither the American armaments nor brutal terrorism can bring the American invaders victory. The American and British soldiers regard the war against

China and Korea as an unjust war. As Comrade Stalin has observed: "It is hard to convince the soldiers that the United States of America has the right to defend her security on the territory of Korea and at the frontiers of China, and that China and Korea have not the right to defend their security on their own territory or at the frontiers of their states. Hence the unpopularity of the war with the American and British soldiers."*

The new, people's China came to the aid of the Korean People's Democratic Republic. With the object of protecting their own security and of assisting the fraternal Korean people, masses of Chinese volunteers, in conjunction with the Korean People's Army, are successfully fighting the American invaders. The intervention of the American and British troops in Korea must inevitably end in defeat.

The Right-Wing Socialists Are Agents of Imperialism

In their struggle against peace, democracy and Socialism, the imperialists enlist the services of the Right-wing Socialists.

The Right-wing Socialists are agents of the bourgeoisie in the working-class movement. They are now exerting all their efforts to save capitalism, to help the American and British imperialists to implement their criminal plans to unleash a new world war. They extol the bourgeois system and slander the socialist Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

V. I. Lenin stated that the opportunists are better defenders of the bourgeoisie than the latter are themselves, and that without them the bourgeoisie could not keep in power. In 1927, Comrade Stalin stated that "present-day

* J. Stalin, *Interview With Pravda Correspondent*, Moscow 1951, pp. 8-9.

Social-Democratism is an *ideological prop* of capitalism.”* These statements have been fully confirmed in the postwar period.

In 1945, the so-called Labour Party came into power in England. During the elections the Labourites were profuse in their promises to the workers. They promised to improve their material conditions, to nationalize the basic industries, and to establish friendly relations with the Soviet Union. But they have not carried out a single one of these promises.

As soon as they came into power they began to exert all efforts to strengthen imperialism and to subordinate Great Britain's domestic and foreign policy to the requirements of the reactionary ruling circles of the United States. The Labour Government sent troops to crush the national-liberation movement in the colonies. True, it nationalized the coal industry, but in such a way as to benefit only the coal owners. The coal industry in Great Britain was in a bad state of neglect, and enormous funds were required for bringing the collieries up to the present-day technical level. In nationalizing the coal mines, the Labour Government placed the burden of this expenditure upon the state, left the coal owners in charge of the industry, and pays them compensation equal to their former profits.

The Right-wing Socialists in France are serving the capitalists with equal zeal. They carefully safeguard the interests of the French bourgeoisie and help the latter to combat the growing working class and democratic movements, headed by the Communists. In conjunction with the other bourgeois parties, the French Socialists pass laws that deprive the working people of their rights, call out troops to shoot down workers on strike and take cruel reprisals against the inhabitants of their colonies who dare to stand up for their liberty.

* J. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 204.

The Right-wing Socialists are betraying the national interests of their respective countries. Their leaders — Jules Moch and Ramadier in France, Attlee and Herbert Morrison in England, Schumacher in Germany, Saragat in Italy, and others—are helping the American imperialists to enslave the peoples of Western Europe. They strenuously advocated the acceptance of the Marshall plan, accepted the extortionate terms of the loans granted by the United States, and are justifying the North-Atlantic war pact and similar aggressive acts promoted by the American imperialists.

The Right-wing Socialists are converting the Social-Democratic parties into the tools of the United States monopolists. They are now acting as the agents not only of the bourgeoisie of their respective countries, but also of American imperialism.

The Tito Clique in the Service of the American Imperialists

In the struggle against peace, democracy and Socialism, a despicable role is being played by the fascist Tito clique.

The Tito clique betrayed the cause of proletarian internationalism and adopted a policy of undisguised hostility to the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, and against the working people in all countries. From bourgeois nationalism it passed to fascism and to the open betrayal of the national interests of the Yugoslav peoples. As was revealed at the espionage trials in Hungary and Bulgaria, the treacherous, nationalist Tito clique is in the pay of the British and American imperialists and is carrying out their orders.

Yugoslavia fell into the power of a gang of hired fascist assassins and spies. As a result of the counterrevolutionary policy pursued by the Tito clique, Yugoslavia ceased to be a People's Democracy and became an anti-

communist, police state of a fascist type. The Tito clique placed the country under the control of the American monopolies; it subordinated the country in both economic and political respects to British and American capital. These hirelings of imperialism are keeping in power by means of a reign of terror that can be compared only with that established by Hitler, or by the Greek and Spanish fascists.

In obedience to the orders of their imperialist masters, the present rulers of Yugoslavia have come out as undisguised warmongers. They tried with the aid of their agents in Bulgaria, Hungary and other countries to bring about counterrevolutions in the People's Democracies, to sever these countries from the Soviet Union and the entire socialist camp and to convert them into colonies of American capital and into bases for a new war.

The Titoites have transformed the whole of Yugoslavia into a military camp. The Yugoslav army is now three times as large as it was on the termination of the war.

Yugoslavia is groaning under the heavy yoke of the hirelings of American imperialism; but the forces capable of liberating the country from this yoke are growing and gaining strength. In spite of the unprecedented reign of terror, the finest sons of the Yugoslav people are waging a courageous struggle against the fascist rulers for the independence of their country and for its return to the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

Intensification of the Antagonisms Within the Imperialist Camp

The reactionary policy of aggression pursued by the imperialists, their policy of preparing for war, is aggravating the antagonisms that rend the capitalist world.

The antagonisms between the imperialist powers are growing. The imperialists are fighting one another for

markets, for sources of raw materials, and for spheres for the export of capital. Having converted Great Britain, France, Belgium and Holland into their dependencies, the American imperialists are putting their hands on their colonies; but the governments of these countries want to prevent these colonial possessions from passing to the United States.

There is a sharp intensification of the antagonisms between the two biggest capitalist powers, the United States and Great Britain. The struggle between the imperialists of these countries is proceeding in Europe, in Latin America, in Asia, Africa and in the Near-Eastern countries: Syria, Turkey, Iran, and elsewhere. British imperialism has grown feebler and is everywhere being pushed into the background, but it is still striving to hold its positions and to retain its vast colonial possessions.

The situation within the capitalist countries is becoming more and more intense. The economy of the United States and Great Britain has assumed a one-sided, war direction; the armament industry is growing at the expense of the industries producing civilian goods and supplies for the working people are being reduced. The economic situation in the European countries is grave. In France, Italy and other countries, many branches of industry are cutting down production. As a consequence of this, unemployment is growing and the conditions of the working people are deteriorating in the capitalist countries. In 1950, the number of unemployed and semiemployed in the capitalist world was about 45,000,000.

Owing to the increase in expenditure on armaments, the burden of taxation upon the people in the capitalist countries is growing heavier. The American worker has to pay away about a third of his wages in taxes. In the capitalist countries prices are rising, wages and salaries are falling, the small peasants and artisans are being ruined. Consumption per head of the population is lower

than before the war. While a small clique of monopolists are piling up higher and higher profits, the bulk of the population of these countries are sinking deeper and deeper into poverty.

In the interview he granted a *Pravda* correspondent in connection with a statement made by British Prime Minister Attlee, Comrade Stalin said: "Premier Attlee should know from his own experience, and from the experience of the U.S.A., that increasing the armed forces of a country and a drive for armaments lead to the expansion of war industry, to the curtailment of civilian industry, to the suspension of big civilian construction works, to higher taxes and higher prices for articles of mass consumption."*

Preparing for war, the imperialists are attacking the democratic rights of the working people. In order to suppress the popular mass movement, the bourgeois states are persecuting leading progressives and democratic organizations. The United States government is arresting and prosecuting Communists and is striving to establish a fascist regime in the country. In order to break the resistance the working class is offering the capitalist offensive, the United States Congress passes laws against the workers that prohibit strikes and restrict the workers' rights.

As far back as 1919, V. I. Lenin stated: "Nowhere is the power of capital, the power of a handful of billionaires over the whole of society, so crude and so openly corrupt as in America."** Today, American imperialism has become the principal bulwark of the reactionary forces all over the world, the most dangerous and most vicious enemy of Socialism and democracy, of the freedom and independence of nations.

* J. Stalin, *Interview With Pravda Correspondent*, Moscow 1951, p. 5.

** V. I. Lenin, *Marx-Engels-Marxism*, Moscow 1951, p. 509.

The governments of the other capitalist countries follow its example and obey its orders. The bourgeois governments want to deprive the working people even of the meagre democratic rights they do possess. Thus, in May 1951, the French Chamber of Deputies revised the election law of France in such a way as to reduce the chances of election of Communists and to pave the way to power for the fascist de Gaulle.

By means of cruel repression and lying propaganda the bourgeois governments want to break the resistance of the working people and to make their rear safe in the war which they are preparing.

In spite of this, however, the struggle the masses of the people are waging for peace, bread and freedom is growing and gaining strength. The working class and other sections of the working people are resolutely defending their vital rights. Big strikes are repeatedly breaking out in France and Italy, and also in the factories and mines in the United States and Great Britain. Even in Spain, where fierce, fascist terror reigns, a general strike broke out in Barcelona in March 1951 in which 300,000 workers took part.

The struggle the working people in the capitalist countries are waging for their vital interests and democratic rights is inseverably connected with the general struggle all the peoples are waging for peace, freedom and national independence, against the aggressive policy of American imperialism, and against the unleashing of a new world war.

The mighty democratic camp, which is headed by the Soviet Union, bars the way to world domination for American imperialism. While imperialism is growing weaker and the antagonisms that rend it are becoming more acute, the camp of peace, the democratic camp, is steadily expanding and growing stronger.

3. THE SOVIET UNION IS THE CHIEF LEADING FORCE IN THE DEMOCRATIC CAMP

The Soviet Program of Lasting, Democratic Peace

At the head of the democratic camp, the Soviet Union is fighting for lasting, democratic peace and security for the peoples. In 1944, when the hour of victory over Hitler Germany was drawing near, Comrade Stalin said: "The task is not only to win the war, but also to prevent the outbreak of fresh aggression and another war, if not forever, then at least for a long time to come."*

The peace policy pursued by the Soviet state follows logically from the very nature of Soviet, socialist society, in which there are no classes that have an interest in war, and which is based on respect for the rights of nations, big and small. Engaged in the grand task of building communist society, the Soviet people are vitally interested in the establishment of lasting peace and security.

The Soviet Union defined the program for the postwar peace settlement while the Patriotic War was still in progress. Comrade Stalin stated at the time that it was necessary to liberate the peoples of Europe from the yoke of the fascist invaders; to help these peoples to become free and independent again; to give them full right and liberty to settle the question of their state structure in their own way; severely to punish all the fascist war crim-

* J. Stalin, *On the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union*, Moscow 1946, pp. 170-71.

inals; to establish such an order in Europe as will preclude the possibility of Germany launching a new war; to establish lasting economic, political and cultural collaboration between the nations of Europe based on mutual confidence and mutual aid in the rehabilitation of the economy and culture that had been wrecked by the Germans.

The Soviet Union firmly adheres to this program.

The Soviet Government bases its striving for firm and lasting peace on the possibility of the peaceful coexistence and economic collaboration between the Soviet Union and the capitalist countries. Comrade Stalin has stated that given the desire to collaborate, the collaboration of countries having different economic systems is quite possible.

The imperialists, on the contrary, assert that the peaceful coexistence of the socialist and the capitalist states is impossible. They assert this in order to justify their anti-Soviet policy, the policy of preparing a new war. The British and American imperialists do not wish to collaborate with the Soviet Union. Comrade Stalin has said: "The warmongers, who are striving to unleash a new war, are afraid most of all of agreement and collaboration with the U.S.S.R., because the policy of agreement with the U.S.S.R. undermines the position of the warmongers and makes the aggressive policy of these gentlemen purposeless."*

The ruling circles of the United States, Great Britain and France have renounced the policy of international peaceful collaboration and have reverted to the old, anti-Soviet policy they pursued before the Second World War, and which has already had grave consequences for the peoples of all countries. At every step they violate the international agreements they entered into in conjunction with the Soviet Union.

* "Questions by a *Pravda* Correspondent and Comrade J. V. Stalin's Replies," *Pravda*, October 29, 1948.

Undeviatingly pursuing its peace policy, the Soviet Union considerably reduced its armed forces after the Second World War and launched extensive operations in rehabilitating and developing its national economy and expanding civilian industry. In contrast to the capitalist countries, where the major part of the state funds are spent for war purposes, in the Soviet Union the major part of the state funds are used for financing the national economy and social and cultural measures. In the post-war period the Soviet Union has been conducting extensive peacetime construction.

Exposing the slanderous statement made by Attlee that the Soviet Union has been increasing its armed forces and expanding its armament industry since the war, Comrade Stalin said: "If Premier Attlee were versed in financial or economic science he would have no difficulty in understanding that no state, not excluding the Soviet state, can develop its civilian industry to the full, undertake great construction works like the hydroelectric stations on the Volga, the Dnieper and the Amu Darya, which require tens of billions in budgetary outlays, continue a policy of systematically reducing prices of articles of mass consumption, which likewise requires tens of billions in budgetary outlays, and invest hundreds of billions in the rehabilitation of the national economy shattered by the German invaders, and at the same time, simultaneously with this, enlarge its armed forces and expand its war industry."*

The U.S.S.R.'s Policy Towards Germany and Japan

The Soviet Union holds that one of the most important conditions for the maintenance and strengthening of peace is fulfilment of the Potsdam agreements concerning

* J. Stalin, *Interview With Pravda Correspondent*, Moscow 1951, p. 4.

Germany and Japan. The Soviet Union stands firmly and resolutely for the democratization and demilitarization of Germany and Japan.

The Soviet Union is undeviatingly and consistently carrying out the Potsdam decisions. In the part of Germany that is occupied by Soviet troops, the war industry has been demolished and all the conditions have been created for the development of peacetime industry. Here the capitalist monopolies have been liquidated, the big landed estates have been distributed among the peasantry, the fascist criminals have met with the punishment they deserved. German democratic organizations, anti-fascist parties and trade unions freely exist and function. The Soviet Union's policy has led to the emancipation and growth of the democratic forces among the German people, to their regeneration for a new, peaceful and creative life. The German Democratic Republic has been formed.

The Soviet Union bases itself on the decision of the Potsdam Conference which stated that Germany must become a single, independent, peaceful, democratic state. While aiming at the destruction of the predatory Hitlerite empire, the Soviet Union never intended to destroy or dismember the German state. In his address to the Soviet people on V-G Day, May 9, 1945, Comrade Stalin said: "The Soviet Union is triumphant, although it has no intention of either dismembering or destroying Germany."*

The Soviet Union exposes the policy of the United States, Great Britain and France, which is leading to the remilitarization of Germany and to the perpetuation of its dismemberment. Jointly with the governments of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Albania, Rumania and of the German Democratic Republic, the Soviet Government is insisting on adherence to the Potsdam Agreement to form a united, peaceful, democratic Ger-

* J. Stalin, *On the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union*, Moscow 1946, p. 197.

man state. The U.S.S.R. stands for the removal of all the barriers in the way of developing Germany's peacetime economy and for the speedy conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany.

In relation to Japan the Soviet Union is also guided by the desire to establish universal peace and security. In conformity with the decisions of the Potsdam Conference, the Soviet Government insists on the democratization and demilitarization of Japan. It has emphatically protested against the release of the war criminals by the American authorities, against the revival of Japanese militarism and against the preparations that are being made for the conclusion of a separate peace treaty between the United States and Japan.

The Soviet Union insists that the peace treaty with Japan must be concluded by all the states that were at war with her. It is of the opinion that this treaty must provide for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Japan, for the banning of the Japanese war industry and for the utmost development of peacetime industry and foreign trade.

The Soviet Union Guards the Independence of Nations

The Soviet Union stands firmly and resolutely in defence of the independence of nations.

When the peace treaties were being concluded with Germany's former allies—Italy, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Finland—the British and American imperialists wanted to deprive these countries of their independence, to seize control of their economy and convert them into their colonies. The Soviet Union prevented this. Thanks to the Soviet Union, the peace treaties concluded with Germany's former allies took into account the interests of the countries that had suffered as a result of the hostilities, but they did not violate the independence or

territorial integrity of Germany's former allies, prevented their economic enslavement and ensured their independent development

The Soviet Union concluded treaties of friendship and mutual assistance with Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary and also with Finland. The object of all these treaties is to prevent the possibility of aggression and to ensure the independence of these countries. They embody the principles of new relations between states, relations of equality and mutual respect for one another's interests.

The Soviet Union is pursuing the same policy in relation to the peoples of Asia.

The Soviet Union has always supported the struggle the great Chinese people have waged for their freedom and independence. It was the first to recognize the People's Government of China, which united the whole country and is staunchly defending its independence. In February 1950, it concluded with this government a treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual assistance. All the clauses of this treaty express the striving to ensure universal peace and the freedom and independence of nations. The Soviet Union is consistently championing the rights and interests of the Chinese People's Republic in the United Nations and other international organizations, and exposes the designs of the American aggressors against the Chinese people.

The Soviet Union is constant in its defence of the national rights of the Korean people. It prevented Korea from being converted into a colony as the ruling circles of the United States wanted to do. Immediately on the termination of the war the Soviet Union proposed to the United States that the Soviet and American troops be simultaneously withdrawn from Korea and that the Korean people be given the opportunity to arrange their lives themselves. The United States, however, rejected this proposal. In spite of this, the Soviet Government with-

drew all its armed forces from Korea. In keeping with its policy of respecting the rights of all nations, the U.S.S.R. Government recognized the Korean People's Democratic Republic, established diplomatic relations with it and concluded a treaty of economic and cultural collaboration.

In 1950, in reply to the request of Ho Chi Minh, the President of the Viet-Nam Democratic Republic, the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations with that Republic, thereby making it clear that it regarded the democratic government of Viet-Nam as the only lawful government representing the entire Viet-Nam people. This government is staunchly defending the freedom and independence of Viet-Nam.

The Soviet Union's policy is based on respect for the equal rights and independence of nations. It is a determined opponent of the oppression of nations and undeviatingly pursues a policy of peace and friendship between them.

The Soviet Union and the United Nations

On the termination of the Second World War an organization was formed called the United Nations (abbreviated to U.N.) which the overwhelming majority of countries joined. The people of these countries had great hopes of this organization; they believed that it would help to maintain and strengthen world peace. But these hopes have been dashed to the ground.

Comrade Stalin stated that the United Nations would be able to maintain peace if the Great Powers acted in unison in it and strove for agreement. The Charter of the United Nations also recognized the necessity of unanimity and agreement among the Great Powers. The Charter provides for the existence of two chief bodies for this organization: the General Assembly, and the Security Council. The General Assembly consists of representa-

tives of all the countries affiliated to the United Nations. The Security Council consists of five permanent members—the representatives of the U.S.S.R., the United States, Great Britain, France and China—and six nonpermanent members who are elected by the General Assembly for terms of two years. The decisions of the Security Council are valid if they are passed by the votes of not less than seven members, including the votes of all the permanent members. This is called the unanimity rule.

This rule, however, proved to be not to the liking of the American and British imperialists. The Soviet Union utilizes the unanimity rule to prevent the Security Council from adopting decisions against the interests of peace, democracy and the independence of nations. For this reason, the ruling circles of the United States and Great Britain began to demand the abolition of the unanimity rule, which is the chief guarantee of the viability of the United Nations.

The American imperialists do everything to prevent collaboration between the Great Powers, and for this purpose formed an aggressive group in the United Nations consisting of the countries dependent upon them, viz., the ten countries that are signatories to the North-Atlantic pact, and the twenty Latin-American countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico and others). The small Dominican Republic, which has a population of barely 2,000,000, now has the same weight in the United Nations as India, not to speak of the Chinese People's Republic, which has been deprived of the right of representation in the United Nations.

To prevent the democratic countries from strengthening their position in the United Nations, the United States does all in its power to hinder the acceptance of a number of People's Democracies (Hungary, Rumania, Albania, Bulgaria, etc.). With the same object it is preventing the Chinese People's Republic from occupying its rightful place on the Security Council and other bodies of

the United Nations, now unlawfully held by the United States' hireling, Chiang Kai-shek.

With the aid of their aggressive bloc, the American imperialists vote down in the United Nations the peace proposals of the Soviet Union and get their own aggressive proposals carried. Thus, the majority on the Security Council, and later in the General Assembly, approved America's intervention in Korea. Under the flag of the United Nations the American imperialists have drawn the armed forces of Great Britain, Turkey, Greece and a number of other countries into their intervention against the Korean people.

The United States seized the Chinese island of Taiwan and with the aid of this same aggressive bloc got a resolution passed by the United Nations accusing the Chinese People's Republic of aggression. The Americans are converting the United Nations, which was created for the purpose of maintaining peace, into an instrument for unleashing a new world war.

"Thus UNO, while turning into an instrument of aggressive war, is at the same time ceasing to be a world organization of equal nations. In point of fact, UNO is now not so much a world organization as an organization for the Americans, catering to the needs of the American aggressors. It is not only the United States of America and Canada that are striving to precipitate another war; this is likewise the course of the twenty Latin-American countries whose landlords and merchants are thirsting for another war somewhere in Europe or Asia, so that they might sell goods to the belligerent countries at super-prices and make millions out of this bloody business. . . .

"The United Nations is thus taking the inglorious path of the League of Nations. It is thereby killing its moral prestige and dooming itself to disintegration."*

* J. Stalin, *Interview With Pravda Correspondent*, Moscow 1951, pp. 11-12.

From the very beginning of the existence of the United Nations the Soviet Union has been striving to convert it into an instrument for the maintenance and strengthening of peace among nations.

In conformity with its peaceful foreign policy, the Soviet Government has repeatedly submitted to the United Nations concrete proposals for strengthening peace and security. The Soviet delegation has proposed: 1) That the propaganda in favour of a new war that is being conducted in a number of countries be prohibited and that legal proceedings be taken against those conducting such propaganda. 2) That atomic weapons be totally banned and that strict international control be established to make the ban effective; that the government that first employs atomic weapons, or other means for the mass extermination of human beings, be regarded as a war criminal. 3) That the United States, Great Britain, France, China and the Soviet Union unite their peace efforts, conclude among themselves a pact for the strengthening of peace, and reduce their armed forces by one-third.

The implementation of these proposals would considerably strengthen peace. But this is precisely why the American and British imperialists, and the governments of the capitalist countries that follow them, reject these proposals. Comrade Stalin has pointed out that the aggressive forces of the United States, Great Britain and France "turned down the proposals of the Soviet Union for the conclusion of a Pact of Peace, reduction of armaments and prohibition of the atomic weapon, fearing that the adoption of these proposals would frustrate the aggressive measures of the reactionary governments and render the armament drive unnecessary."*

On the other hand, the Soviet Union's proposals are

* *Ibid.*, p. 13.

receiving the increasingly active support of the democratic forces in all countries.

Amidst the complicated situation that has arisen in the postwar period, the Soviet Union is vigorously and consistently pursuing a peace policy and in this enjoys the good will of the working people of all countries. Every day brings confirmation of the words of Lenin that "...our peace policy is approved by the overwhelming majority of the inhabitants of the globe."*

The Soviet Union's foreign policy is wisely directed by the Bolshevik Party and Comrade Stalin. It is based primarily upon the growing economic, political and cultural might of the U.S.S.R., on the moral and political unity of Soviet society, on the friendship among the Soviet peoples and on the Armed Forces of the U.S.S.R.

Furthermore, in contrast to the situation that existed before the war, there are now a number of states which are in conjunction with the U.S.S.R. fighting determinedly and consistently for lasting peace and friendship among nations. The Soviet Union stands at the head of the mighty camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

* V. I. Lenin, *Collected Works*, 4th Russ. ed., Vol. 30, p. 365.

4. THE FORCES OF PEACE, DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM ARE GROWING AND GAINING STRENGTH

The Great Achievements of the People's Democracies

The establishment in Central and Southeastern Europe of the new People's Democracies brought about radical social-economic changes which created the conditions for building Socialism in those countries. State power passed to the people, led by the working class. Landlordism was abolished. The banks, the transport services and the big and medium industrial enterprises were taken from the capitalists and proclaimed state property. All this enabled the People's Democracies to begin to run their national economy on planned lines. The new Constitutions that were adopted in all these countries sealed the victory of the people's democratic system.

The leading force in the People's Democracies is the working class. It uses the people's democratic power to crush the resistance of the exploiters, to organize national defence, to consolidate its alliance with the peasantry and other sections of working people, and to bring them into the work of building Socialism, i.e., to build socialist society. Thus, the people's democratic power fulfils the functions of the proletarian dictatorship.

The working class in the People's Democracies has achieved complete unity. The Communist and Socialist Parties in Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Rumania amalgamated to form united working-class par-

ties, which base their activities on the theory of Marxism-Leninism. Side by side with the United Workers' Parties there are united trade unions, cooperative societies, and youth, women's and other organizations. The unity of the working class greatly enhanced the leading part it plays in the state. In the People's Democracies, all the other parties accept the leadership of the United Workers' Parties.

On the termination of the war the People's Democracies were faced with the difficult tasks of economic development. Many of them had been frightfully devastated by the invasion of the German fascist hordes. Nevertheless, in all these countries industrial production already greatly exceeds the prewar level.

The People's Democracies are proceeding with the building of socialist society on an ever-increasing scale. The countries are being industrialized. State, i.e., socialist, industry is predominant. Following the example of the workers in the U.S.S.R., the workers in the People's Democracies are developing socialist emulation in fulfilling and overfulfilling production plans and in increasing productivity of labour.

Utilizing the successes achieved in industry and the increase in the mechanization of agriculture, the states in the People's Democracies are promoting the development and consolidation of the agricultural cooperatives.

A decisive factor in the successes achieved by the People's Democracies and in their progress towards Socialism is the all-round friendly assistance rendered them by the Soviet Union.

In January 1949 a Council of Mutual Economic Assistance was formed consisting of representatives of the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies. This council organizes the interchange of economic experience, the rendering of technical assistance, and mutual assistance in the way of raw materials, provisions, machines, equipment, and so forth.

The People's Democracies are building Socialism in

the midst of class struggle. The deposed exploiting classes, the kulaks and other hostile elements, are striving to restore the former capitalist order. The imperialist powers would like to convert these countries into their colonies and bases for a new war. With this end in view they organize espionage and assassination, wrecking and sabotage, reactionary plots and armed intervention. The trials of the Rajk and Kostov espionage gangs which took place in Budapest and Sofia in 1949 and the exposure of a similar gang—that of Schling, Schwermova and Clements—in Czechoslovakia exposed the conspiracy hatched by the imperialists and their hirelings against the People's Democracies, against peace, democracy and Socialism. The frustration of the imperialists' plans and the exposure of their agents was a big victory for the democratic camp.

In building their new way of life, the working people in the People's Democracies profit by the immense experience the U.S.S.R. has gained in socialist development. Utilizing this experience, they, led by the Communists, are successfully developing their economy and culture, are sharpening their revolutionary vigilance, and guarding their achievements from attack by internal and external enemies.

The achievements of the People's Democracies on the path of socialist development are an immense contribution to the common cause of strengthening the democratic camp.

The Historic Victory of the Chinese People

An enormous factor that strengthens the cause of peace, democracy and Socialism is the great victory achieved by the Chinese people.

For many decades China was in a state of semicolonial dependence on the biggest imperialist powers. The capitalists of Great Britain, Japan, the United States and

other countries, aided by the Chinese landlords and capitalists, robbed and exploited this vast country with its population of 475,000,000.

As far back as 1925, a people's revolution began in China against the imperialists and the reactionary feudal regime. In the course of this revolution power in China was seized by the reactionary bourgeois-landlord upper stratum of the Kuomintang party, headed by the protégé of the British and American imperialists, Chiang Kai-shek. Led by the Communists, the workers and peasants overthrew the reactionary rule of the Kuomintang in a number of districts of China and set up a democratic government.

In the battles against the Kuomintang forces the People's Liberation Army of China came into being and gained strength. When Japan invaded China, this army offered the Japanese aggressors heroic resistance.

In an arduous war against the Japanese aggressors the People's Liberation Army and the Chinese partisans liberated from the enemy a considerable part of China. But soon after termination of the war against Japan the Kuomintang government launched a criminal war against the Chinese people. In the middle of 1946 the Kuomintang hurled against the people's liberating forces an army of four million men. The American imperialists supplied this army with first-class weapons, ammunition and innumerable advisors and instructors. In the endeavour to perpetuate the rule of the Kuomintang and to obtain control of China's natural wealth, the United States spent 6,000 million dollars. In spite of this, the plans of the American imperialists in China collapsed.

The People's Liberation Army of China checked the Kuomintang offensive and in the autumn of 1947 itself launched an offensive. After three years of fierce fighting the People's Liberation Army utterly routed the vast Kuomintang army with all its American equipment. The remnants of the Kuomintang forces fled to Taiwan.

Led by the working class and its militant communist vanguard, the masses of the Chinese people overthrew the reactionary rule of the Kuomintang, the rule of feudal oppression, colonial exploitation and betrayal of the nation's interests. The people established their own rule and frustrated the predatory plans of the American imperialists to convert China into their colony and into a vast base for a new aggressive war.

On October 1, 1949, a People's Political Consultative Conference, representing the broad masses of the Chinese people, was held. This conference solemnly proclaimed the inauguration of the Chinese People's Republic and set up a Central People's government headed by that famous son of the Chinese people and tried leader of the Communist Party of China, Mao Tse-tung. This historic victory of the Chinese people was made possible by the great successes achieved by the Soviet Union and by the growth of the democratic forces all over the world.

The Chinese People's Republic is headed by the working class, is based on the alliance between the workers and peasants and is fighting against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capital, that is, the big capital which is represented by the reactionary Kuomintang leaders and is the agency of American imperialism. The united people's democratic front of China that has been formed contains all the democratic and patriotic elements in the country, including that section of the Chinese bourgeoisie (called the national bourgeoisie) which does not want the American imperialists to boss China.

The Chinese people, led by the Communist Party, is building up a new, united, independent, flourishing, democratic China. With this end in view, big democratic reforms are being carried out in the country. The land is being taken away from the landlords and distributed among the peasants with little or no land; the transport facilities, means of communication and the industrial, agricultural and other enterprises that belonged to the

Chinese big bourgeoisie who were closely connected with foreign capital have been taken over by the state.

In a number of the basic industries of China (fuel, electricity supply, metallurgical, machine building, cement, and others), the state enterprises are predominant. A large number of private enterprises have remained; these function under state control.

The Chinese People's Republic inherited a backward and ruined economy. But during the short period of peaceful construction a great deal has been done in People's China for her rehabilitation and further development. In 1950, as a result of the strenuous efforts of the Chinese workers and of the labour emulation movement that developed in the factories, industrial production in North-east China, where the major part of China's heavy industry is concentrated, was 100 per cent above the 1949 level. Twenty-two thousand kilometres of railway have been restored and the construction of new railways has begun. China's financial position has improved. Prices have dropped. Extensive work is in progress to improve the irrigation system and to rebuild dams and canals to prevent floods.

The Soviet Union lends great assistance to the economic regeneration of China. On the firm basis of the Soviet-Chinese Treaty, economic collaboration is developing between the two countries. The Soviet Union has supplied China with a considerable quantity of valuable industrial equipment, and also with locomotives, railway cars, tractors, etc. With the aid and support of the Soviet Union, and drawing upon its wealth of experience, the Chinese people are advancing their economy and culture.

The Chinese people are vigilantly guarding the freedom and independence they have won. The government of the Chinese People's Republic is pursuing a policy of friendship and collaboration with the Soviet Union and with other democratic countries. On the anniversary of

the signing of the Soviet-Chinese Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance, J. V. Stalin wrote to Mao Tse-tung: "I have no doubt that our Treaty will continue to serve the cause of friendship between the Chinese People's Republic and the Soviet Union, and of strengthening world peace."*

The National-Liberation Movement in Colonial and Dependent Countries

The national-liberation movement of the other peoples of the East is also a part of the general struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism. These are movements against the heavy yoke of the foreign imperialists and of their abettors in the camp of the "national" bourgeoisie and landlords.

The Second World War struck the imperialist colonial powers a heavy blow and gave a powerful impetus to the national-liberation movement.

Great successes in the struggle for freedom and independence have been achieved by the people of Viet-Nam. Before the Second World War this country was a colony of imperialist France and during the war was seized by Japan. The patriotic people of Viet-Nam waged a heroic struggle against the Japanese invaders and succeeded in driving them out of the country. At the end of 1945, the people took power in their own hands and set up a democratic Republic.

For the first time in the history of the Viet-Nam people free elections were held in this country and the freely elected National Assembly set up a genuine people's government, headed by the President Ho Chi Minh.

From the very first days the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam came into existence the French imperialists

* *Pravda*, February 14, 1951.

have been exerting all efforts to destroy it and to reimpose the yoke of colonial oppression upon the Viet-Nam people. They have sent large armed forces to that country in order to drown the national-liberation movement in blood. The American imperialists have also come out against the Viet-Nam people. But all the efforts of the French colonial oppressors and of their American masters are meeting with the strenuous resistance of the people. With the backing of the entire population, the People's Army of Viet-Nam has liberated 90 per cent of the country's territory, inhabited by 20,000,000 people. Notwithstanding the war conditions, important reforms have been carried out in the democratic Republic: ground rent and taxation on the peasants have been reduced; an eight-hour day has been established; extensive cultural development is taking place.

The national-liberation movement is also spreading widely in other countries in Asia.

The Indonesian people rose against the Dutch colonizers and their British and American protectors. As a consequence of the treachery of the bourgeoisie, the people of this country sustained severe defeat. In spite of this, however, they are continuing the struggle against the foreign and native oppressors.

The people of Malay are waging a stubborn struggle for liberation. The British Labour Government has sent armed forces against them and is resorting to the cruellest measures to crush the liberation movement. Whole villages and city blocks have been razed to the ground; the people's habitations are bombed from the air and bombarded from the sea; but in spite of all this, the Malayan people are continuing to fight staunchly against the colonial slavery imposed upon them by British imperialism.

The national-liberation democratic movement is also assuming ever wider dimensions in Burma, where only recently the British colonizers had lorded it with impunity. The masses of the people have united with the parti-

san units and are waging an armed struggle for their freedom and independence.

In India too, the national-liberation movement has assumed considerable dimensions. Scared by this movement, the British imperialists played the farce of granting India independence, but, as a preliminary measure divided the country into two parts: the Indian Union and Pakistan. As a matter of fact, neither India nor Pakistan is independent. They are dominions within the British empire and the British have retained the most important positions in these countries' economy. Meanwhile, the American imperialists are penetrating India to an ever-increasing degree.

Having split the country into two parts, the imperialists and the local exploiters are fomenting enmity between the peoples of India and Pakistan in order to divert them from the struggle for their emancipation. In spite of this, the peoples of India and Pakistan are more and more determinedly fighting them for their rights, for the transfer of the land to the peasants without compensation, for the development of the national economy, for the improvement of the material conditions of the working people, and for the complete independence of the country. The Communist Party of India calls upon the working class, peasants and working intelligentsia, and also upon the national bourgeoisie in whose interest it is to make the country free, to rally in a united democratic front and to set up a genuine people's government that will carry out these demands of the people.

Strengthening of the German Democratic Republic

A big achievement for the democratic camp and another defeat for the imperialist camp was the formation of the German Democratic Republic in October 1949.

The formation of the German Democratic Republic was the result, primarily, of the correct policy pursued by

the Soviet Union and the whole of the democratic camp for the democratization of Germany. It is also a striking index of the growth and increasing solidarity of the democratic forces among the German peoples themselves. These democratic forces are taking the fate of their country into their own hands.

The Soviet Government transferred to the Provisional Government of the German Democratic Republic the administrative functions that hitherto had been exercised by the Soviet Military Administration in the eastern occupational zone of Germany. In place of this Administration a Soviet Control Commission was set up to supervise the execution of the Potsdam and other joint agreements of the four Powers in respect to Germany.

Comrade Stalin attached great importance to the formation of the German Democratic Republic, as can be seen from the following passage in the greetings he sent on the occasion to W. Pieck and O. Grotewohl: "The establishment of a peace-loving German Democratic Republic constitutes a turning point in the history of Europe. There can be no doubt that the existence of a peace-loving democratic Germany, together with the existence of the peaceful Soviet Union, precludes the possibility of new wars in Europe, puts an end to bloodshed in Europe and makes impossible the enslavement of the European countries by the world imperialists."*

He went on to say that if the Soviet and German peoples display determination to exert their strength in the fight for peace in the same way as they did in waging the war, peace in Europe can be regarded as assured.

The changes brought about in the German Democratic Republic, such as, the nationalization of the factories that belonged to big capitalists, the war criminals and active fascists, the transfer of the landed estates to the peasants, etc., laid a firm foundation for the development of

* *Pravda*, October 14, 1949.

the Republic's peacetime economy. The national economy of the German Democratic Republic, which is conducted on planned principles, receives considerable assistance from the Soviet Union. The German Democratic Republic is developing peacetime industry and is expanding trade with the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies. While in Western Germany economic ruin is spreading and the people are sinking deeper and deeper into poverty, the economy of the German Democratic Republic is developing and the material welfare of the people is improving.

The government of the German Democratic Republic strongly protests against the remilitarization of Germany and demands the creation of a united, democratic German state that will live in peace and friendship with other peoples.

All this strikes a heavy blow at the plans of the British and American imperialists and strengthens the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

The Peace Movement

The peoples have learned from their bitter experience of two world wars. Remembering the horrors and disasters of those wars, the overwhelming majority of the people in all countries want to work in tranquility and to enjoy the blessings of peace. The frenzied outcries of the warmongers are alien and hateful to them. In October 1948, Comrade Stalin said: "The horrors of the recent war are too vivid in the memories of the peoples, and the social forces that stand for peace are too strong to enable Churchill's pupils in aggression to overcome them and turn them towards a new war."*

The peoples have always striven for peace, but this striving has never assumed so wide and organized a char-

* "Questions by a *Pravda* Correspondent and Comrade J. V. Stalin's Replies," *Pravda*, October 29, 1948.

acter as it has now. For the first time in history a mighty peace front has arisen, headed by the Soviet Union. Its object is to save mankind from a new world war and to ensure the peaceful collaboration of nations. .

An immensely important part in the struggle to strengthen peace was played by the World Peace Congress held in Paris and Prague in April 1949. The two thousand delegates at this congress from 72 countries represented 600,000,000 peace supporters. The congress declared that the American imperialists are preparing a criminal aggressive war and are enslaving the peoples; it called upon all honest people in all countries to realize the danger that is hovering over the world and to unite for the purpose of preventing war.

After the First Peace Congress, the world peace movement assumed exceptionally wide dimensions. National Peace Committees and Councils were organized in 76 countries. The mass organizations of the working people, such as trade union, women's, youth and student organizations, cooperative societies, etc., and also numerous religious, educational and other organizations which had formerly kept out of politics, joined the struggle for peace. The peace movement unites the broadest strata of the people of different classes, of different political opinions and different religious beliefs. It includes workers, peasants, scientists, writers, artists and people prominent in politics and public affairs.

The peace supporters are more and more resolutely taking concrete action to frustrate the reckless plans to launch a new war. They are demanding that the fomenters of war be pilloried. The workers of France, Italy, Holland and other countries are refusing to produce armaments and to unload ships carrying war material sent by the United States. The French people are demanding the cessation of the war in Viet-Nam. The progressive forces of the American people are demanding the withdrawal of United States troops from Korea. Everywhere the move-

ment for banning atomic and bacteriological weapons is growing.

This movement assumed exceptionally wide dimensions in connection with the collection of signatures for the Stockholm Appeal. The Stockholm Session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress issued an appeal to all people in the world, irrespective of party and national affiliation and of political and religious opinions, to sign a call for the banning of atomic weapons and for proclaiming as a war criminal the government that first resorts to such weapons.

The collection of signatures for the Stockholm Appeal grew into a world referendum in defence of peace, against the menace of war. Five hundred million people signed the Stockholm Appeal.

A big role in the struggle for peace was played by the Second World Peace Congress. The imperialists tried by every means to prevent this congress from being held. It was intended to hold the congress in England, but the British government refused to allow the majority of the delegates to enter the country. It was held in Warsaw and it adopted important decisions directed towards the attainment of universal peace and security. It also set up a World Peace Council in which 80 countries are represented.

The task of strengthening world peace and security, the vital interests of all nations, imperatively calls for the further strengthening of the popular movement for the defence of peace. Supreme vigilance on the part of the people and their firm determination to fight for peace with all their might and with all the means at their disposal, can and must frustrate the criminal designs of the organizers of a new war.

The Fight for Working-Class Unity

The most determined and consistent fighter for peace, democracy and Socialism is the working class. During the Second World War and in the postwar period the working-class movement grew and gained strength. In the People's Democracies and in Eastern Germany firm working-class unity was established; United Workers' Parties and trade unions were formed. In many capitalist countries the trade unions were revived on the basis of unity by uniting workers irrespective of their political opinions.

Unity greatly enhances the strength of the working class in its struggle against the bourgeoisie. That is why the latter does everything, with the help of the Right-wing Socialists to disintegrate the ranks of the working class, to split and disorganize them. The policy of splitting the working-class movement is one of the imperialists' most important means of preparing to launch a new world war, of crushing the forces of democracy and Socialism and of lowering the standard of living of the masses. Obeying the direct orders of the British and American imperialists, the Right-wing Socialists and reactionary trade union leaders try in every way to break up the united working-class organizations and prevent their unity of action.

In spite of the splitting tactics of the Right-wing Socialists and reactionary trade union leaders, working-class unity is growing and gaining strength. They did not succeed in taking with them any considerable number of the members affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour in France and Italy. In fact, lately these organizations have grown and become stronger.

A great gain in working-class unity was the formation in October 1945 of the World Federation of Trade Unions. This Federation has conducted extensive activities in defending the vital interests of the working class, the democratic rights of the people, and lasting world peace. That is why the imperialist bourgeoisie,

with the help of the Right Socialists and reactionary trade union leaders, are trying to break up the World Federation of Trade Unions. In 1949, the British and American trade union bosses withdrew their unions from the Federation and formed a separate trade union centre in London.

The progressive forces in the World Federation of Trade Unions have proved to be far more powerful than the forces of reaction. Notwithstanding the withdrawal of the splitters, the World Federation has remained a powerful and efficient fighting organization with an affiliated membership of 72,000,000 working people in the overwhelming majority of countries. This organization is determinedly continuing the fight for trade union unity, for peace and for the democratic rights of the peoples.

Besides trade unions, there are democratic youth and women's organizations in all countries. The youth organizations in 63 countries are united in the World Federation of Democratic Youth, which has an affiliated membership of 70,000,000. The women's organizations in 56 countries form the Women's International Democratic Federation which has an affiliated membership of 90,000,000. The international women's and youth movements are important detachments of the democratic camp.

The growing international solidarity of the working class is helping to thwart the plans of the instigators of a new war. It is cementing the ranks of the working people of all countries who are fighting for peace, democracy and Socialism.

The Communist Parties Are in the Van of the Struggle for Peace, Democracy and Socialism

The struggle the workers and all working people are waging for peace, democracy and Socialism is led by the Communist Parties.

During the past few years the Communist Parties have gained strength, have become steeled in the struggle

and have greatly increased their influence among the masses of the working people. Twenty to twenty-five years ago, the aggregate membership of the Communist Parties outside the Soviet Union was about 500,000. At the present time the Communist Parties and United Workers' Parties have an aggregate membership of 18-20 million. Comrade Stalin has stated: "The growth of the Communists' influence cannot be regarded as fortuitous. It is quite a natural phenomenon. The influence of the Communists has grown because in the stern years of the rule of fascism in Europe the Communists proved to be reliable, bold and self-sacrificing fighters against fascist rule and for the freedom of the peoples."*

When the young Communist Parties had grown into mass and fully mature parties it became impossible, and inadvisable, to direct them from a single centre. Consequently, in 1943, by mutual agreement between the Communist Parties, the Communist International was dissolved.

The new stage in the development of the Communist Parties called for new forms of communication between them. In September 1947, representatives of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and those of a number of other European countries gathered in Poland. This conference declared that the absence of communication between the Communist Parties was a grave drawback. The communist movement develops within national boundaries, but its tasks and interests are the same for all the Communist Parties in the different countries.

This conference of representatives of a number of Communist Parties discussed the international situation and set the Communists the task of taking the banner of defence of the national independence of their respective

* Interview Granted by Comrade Stalin to *Pravda* Correspondent Concerning Mr. Churchill's Speech, *Pravda*, March 14, 1946.

countries into their own hands, to organize and lead the mass struggle against the reckless plan of the American imperialists to enslave Europe, and to unite all the democratic forces for the struggle against the menace of war.

The conference also set up an Information Bureau for the purpose of arranging the interchange of experience between the Communist Parties and, if necessary, to coordinate their activities on the basis of mutual agreement. The Information Bureau publishes the newspaper *For Lasting Peace, for People's Democracy!*

In November 1949, a conference called by the Information Bureau of the Communist Parties defined the further tasks of the Communist Parties in the struggle for lasting peace and for working-class unity. It noted that in view of the growing danger of a new war a great historical responsibility rests upon the Communist Parties. The struggle for lasting peace, the struggle to organize the forces of peace and to rally them against the forces of war, must at the present time occupy chief place in the activities of the Communist Parties and democratic organizations.

To be able to carry out the great and noble task of saving mankind from the menace of a new war, the Communist Parties must increase their efforts to organize, strengthen and expand the peace movement, draw into this movement new strata of the population, convert it into a nation-wide movement in each country and unite the struggle for peace with the struggle for the national independence of their respective countries and with the struggle for the democratic rights and liberties of the working people.

Of exceptional importance is the struggle the Communist Parties are waging for working-class unity. Never in the entire history of the international working-class movement has this question been of such great importance as it is at the present time. Working-class unity is

needed now primarily to defend peace, to frustrate the criminal designs of the warmongers and to fight successfully for the vital interests of the working people. It is needed for the purpose of achieving the fundamental aim of abolishing the power of monopolist capital and of reorganizing society on a socialist basis. Working-class unity can be achieved only by resolutely fighting the Right-wing Socialists, the splitters and disrupters of the working-class movement.

The Communists of all countries are rallying the workers and all working people against imperialism and the danger of war, for peace, democracy and the national independence of nations, and for the struggle for Socialism. The Communist Parties are waging a determined struggle against all hostile elements; they are exposing all deviations towards bourgeois nationalism, and are strengthening their own ranks ideologically and organizationally. In the struggle against the enemies, the Communist Parties abroad are growing and becoming steeled, and developing into a mighty, indestructible force.

The Soviet Union is the Banner-Bearer of Peace, Democracy and Socialism

The forces of the democratic camp are growing and gaining strength all over the world. The imperialist camp is torn by antagonisms and mutual bickering; the democratic camp, however, is becoming increasingly united and is resolutely fighting the aggressive plans of the imperialists.

The American imperialists obviously overrate their own strength and underrate the strength of the democratic camp. Their plans are even less feasible than those of their predecessors, the German and Japanese imperialists. The present international situation differs radically from that in which the Second World War was prepared. It is

much more difficult now for the warmongers to carry out their bloodthirsty plans. The mighty 'peace front can and must frustrate the imperialists' criminal designs.

In the interview he granted to a *Pravda* correspondent, Comrade Stalin said: "Peace will be preserved and consolidated if the peoples take the cause of preserving peace into their own hands and uphold it to the end."*

At the head of the peace movement are the Soviet people. In 1949 the first All-Union Peace Conference was held in Moscow, and in 1950 the second one was held. The Soviet people ardently supported the Stockholm Appeal to ban atomic weapons. Over 115,000,000 Soviet citizens, that is, the entire adult population of the U.S.S.R. signed this appeal.

In March 1951, the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., supporting the appeal of the Second World Peace Congress to prohibit war propaganda and to regard it as criminal, passed a law for the defence of peace which laid it down that: 1) War propaganda in any form undermines peace, creates the danger of a new war, and is therefore a heinous crime against humanity. 2) Persons guilty of conducting war propaganda shall be prosecuted and tried as heinous criminals.

The camp of peace, democracy and Socialism has a reliable leader—the Soviet Union. Under the leadership of the Communist Party and of Comrade Stalin the Soviet Union is firmly and undeviatingly pursuing a policy of peace and friendship among the nations. The people of all countries regard Comrade Stalin as the defender of their vital interests, the great leader of the working people of all countries in the struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism.

To commemorate Comrade Stalin's seventieth birthday, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. instituted an International Stalin Prize "For the Promo-

* J. Stalin, *Interview With Pravda Correspondent*, Moscow 1951, p. 14.

tion of Peace Among Nations" to be awarded to citizens of any country for distinguished service in the struggle against the warmongers and for the strengthening of peace.

The steady growth of the might and prestige of the U.S.S.R. is a firm foundation for strengthening the entire democratic camp. The high prestige the U.S.S.R. enjoys is due to profound reasons which the enemies of the U.S.S.R. cannot remove. As Comrade Stalin explains, this prestige is due:

"Firstly, to the hatred the working class entertains towards capitalism and to its striving to liberate itself from it. The workers in the bourgeois countries sympathize with the Soviet government primarily because it is the government that overthrew capitalism. . . .

"Secondly, to the hatred the masses of the people entertain towards war and to their striving to shatter the war plans of the bourgeoisie. The masses of the people know that the Soviet government was the first to launch the attack upon imperialist war and by doing so frustrated the war. The masses of the people see that the Soviet Union is the only country that is waging a struggle against a new war. . . .

"Thirdly, to the hatred the oppressed masses in the dependent countries and colonies entertain towards the yoke of imperialism and to their striving to smash it. The Soviet government is the only government that has smashed the chains of 'home' imperialism. The Soviet Union is the only country in which society is built on the principles of equality and cooperation among nations."*

The Soviet Union is the embodiment of the new and higher social system and its foreign policy expresses the aspirations of the masses of the people in all countries for lasting peace and friendship among the nations. The Soviet Union is the true champion of freedom and inde-

* J. Stalin, *Collected Works*, Russ. ed., Vol. 6, pp. 299-300.

pendence of all nations, the enemy of national and racial oppression and colonial exploitation in every form. The peace policy pursued by the Soviet government defends the interests of all progressive mankind. The chief barrier in the path of the warmongers is the Soviet Union, which stands at the head of the democratic camp.

Millions of working people in all countries turn their gaze in hope towards the Soviet Union. The experience of the U.S.S.R. indicates to the working people of the whole world the true way to abolish capitalist slavery. The more successes the Soviet people achieve in the building of Communism, the mightier our country becomes, the more confident the workers and other working people in all countries become in their own strength and the more active are they in their struggle against capitalism and for Communism.

Communism is now a tremendous force. All over the world, millions of new fighters are rallying to the banner of Communism. In the van of this mighty advance of mankind towards Communism is our great country—the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

BRIEF SUMMARY

The victory the Soviet Union and the freedom-loving nations of the world achieved in the Second World War weakened capitalism and strengthened Socialism. After the Second World War two camps were formed: the imperialist camp and the democratic camp.

The imperialist camp is headed by the United States. The British and American imperialists are forming military alliances in preparation of a new world war to establish world domination; they are striving to crush democracy and establish reactionary regimes everywhere. In this they are being assisted by the Right-wing Socialists. The Tito espionage clique is in the service of the American imperialists.

The democratic camp is headed by the Soviet Union. With it are the People's Democracies. The democratic camp is supported by the working class and democratic movement all over the world and by the national-liberation movement of the peoples in the colonial and dependent countries. The principal aim of the democratic camp is to strengthen peace and democracy, to frustrate the criminal designs of the fomenters of a new war.

The aim of the Soviet Union's foreign policy is to establish firm and lasting democratic peace and peaceful world cooperation. The Soviet state's foreign policy, directed by the Bolshevik Party and by Comrade Stalin, is a peace policy and conforms with the vital interests of all freedom-loving nations. It is actively supported by the whole of the democratic camp.

The forces of the democratic camp are immeasurably more powerful than those of the imperialist camp and are continuously growing. The People's Democracies have achieved great successes. With the wholehearted support and assistance of the U.S.S.R. they are proceeding confidently along the road to Socialism. The Chinese people have achieved a historic victory over the imperialists and Kuomintangites and are now engaged on a wide front in building their new life. The formation of the German Democratic Republic marked a turning point in the history of Europe. Meanwhile, the struggle the workers and peasants in the capitalist countries are waging and the national-liberation movement of the peoples in the colonial and dependent countries are growing and assuming wider dimension. For the first time in history an international peace front has been formed.

In the van of the struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism are the Communist Parties. The Communist Parties abroad are growing and gaining strength. They are fighting for peace, democracy and Socialism, and for working-class unity.

The Soviet people are the vanguard of the working people of all countries who are fighting for peace, democracy and Socialism. The Soviet Union is the banner-bearer of peace, democracy and Socialism.

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